

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

Volume 4-Number 16 –20 April, 2007/ Page 1

This Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CONGRATULATIONS ON NATIONAL AWARD

On April 3, 2007 the Rockwood School District's Lasalle Springs Middle School was designated a Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) by the American School Counselor Association. Less than 100 schools nationwide have received this award and LaSalle Springs is the first school in Missouri to be so honored.

To be eligible for the award, the school had to submit material covering 12 separate components that consisted of a brief (1/2 page – 1 page) narrative/explanation of each component, the component response, and all necessary documentation.

The RAMP designation, awarded to schools that align with the criteria set in the ASCA National Model, recognizes schools that are committed to delivering a comprehensive, data driven school counseling program and an exemplary educational environment. Lasalle Springs, along with other recipients, is to be commended for its dedication to serving all students with a comprehensive school counseling program that shows how students are different as a result of what school counselors do.

Dr. Linda Kortas led the team that developed and submitted the application for Lasalle Springs. She will be presenting at a session of the MSCA Fall Conference on the process involved in seeking the ASCA award.

To see a complete list of ASCA 2006-2007 RAMP winners, go to
<http://www.schoolcounselor.org/files/pr%204-7-07.pdf>

STATE-WIDE GUIDANCE STUDY AVAILABLE

The study to investigate the impact of comprehensive guidance programs on student achievement conducted by the Guidance and Placement section of the Division of Career Education, in collaboration with the Missouri School Counselor Association and the University of Missouri-Columbia is now available. The study may be viewed or downloaded from the Guidance and Placement Section website at http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/guidance_placement_research.htm

COUNSELOR INSTITUTE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Registration for The Third Annual Counselor Institute is now open. The Institute, offered by the University of Central Missouri (UCM) and DESE, has been scheduled for **Friday June 15 and Saturday, June 16** at the UCM Summit Center in Lee's Summit. **Due to unforeseen circumstances, online registration is not available.**

For registration packets or, if you have questions about the Institute, please contact Liz Hicks by e-mail at ehicks@ucmo.edu or by phone at 660-543-8998 MWF 7 TO 5.

Liz informed us that there has been a larger than expected number of inquiries about the Institute so if you have already contacted her about receiving a packet and do not receive one by sometime next week, please contact her again with your mailing address.

IMPORTANT: PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK TO DESE AS THIS WILL ONLY SLOW DOWN THE PROCESS.

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

Volume 4-Number 16 –20 April, 2007/ Page 2

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

(From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA listservs or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.)

{CURRICULUM}

RESOURCE AVAILABLE THAT COUNSELORS CAN ACCESS AND USE

eThemes is an extensive database of content-rich, age-appropriate resources organized around specific themes. These resources are created for educators to use in their classrooms.

eThemes is a service of the eMINTS National Center. **eThemes** resources are created and maintained by University of Missouri-Columbia College of Education staff and graduate students from the School of Information Science and Learning Technologies.

Although only teachers approved by the eMINTS program (**official eMINTS teachers** and participants in the eMINTS4All program) may make specific resource requests, educators are encouraged to search and use the extensive database of existing **eThemes**.

Currently, more than 1,000 **eThemes** are available — on topics ranging from Africa to Yellowstone National Park. To visit this resource, go to <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/index.shtml>

{INDIVIDUAL PLANNING}

HAVE STUDENTS CONCERNED ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT?

Today, Friday, April 20, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) held an Environmental Career Fair in conjunction with Earth Day activities in Jefferson City. A number of different colleges and universities, engineering companies and sections within DNR offered information on educational requirements and other career information in this area. We realize that some of you might know of students who have an interest in this area, but would not be able to attend. If you or your student(s) would like more information about careers in this area, please contact Jim Lubbers at either 800-361-4728 or 573-526-3943 or by e-mail at jim.lubbers@dnr.mo.gov

{RESPONSIVE SERVICES}

VIRGINIA TECH

In the wake of the shootings at Virginia Tech, a number of different agencies are offering resources that, while primarily aimed at assisting those of college age, may also be of value if you have students who have expressed concern about this tragedy.

The American Psychological Association (APA) compiled and posted a new resource, "Tips for College and University Students: Managing Your Distress in the Aftermath of the Virginia Tech Shootings," to their APA Help Center. This may be accessed at <http://helping.apa.org/articles/article.php?id=151>

The School Mental Health Project/Center for Mental Health in Schools in the UCLA Dept. of Psychology also has a list of resources that you might want to consult. This can be accessed at <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/>

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

Volume 4-Number 16 –20 April, 2007/ Page 3

{SYSTEM SUPPORT}

INFORMATION FORWARDED FROM MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH: FREE ONLINE DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH COURSE OFFERED TO PROVIDERS

Essential Learning expresses deep condolences to the family members, victims, faculty and students that have been affected by the senseless shooting that occurred on the Virginia Tech campus Monday morning. In support of providers, in Blacksburg and across the country, that will be helping their communities cope with feelings of anxiety, sadness and anger in the aftermath of this event, we offer a continuing education course for professionals on disaster mental health, at no charge and through May 31, on the CEQuick website, www.cequick.com.

CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS OF NOTE:

A. SPRING TRAINING INSTITUTE will be held May 16-18, 2007 at Tan Tar A. This conference, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Mental Health, gives attendees the opportunity to learn more about mental health issues that confront Missourians of all ages. For more information about this, go to <http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/cps/springtraining/springtraining.htm>

B. THIRD ANNUAL DESE/UCM COUNSELOR INSTITUTE will be held on June 15-16, 2007 at the UCM Summit Center in Lee's Summit. A copy of the Registration form has been sent to guidance contacts in each district for distribution to those interested. If you have questions, or desire materials for this Institute, **please contact Liz Hicks by e-mail at ehicks@ucmo.edu or by phone at 660-543-8998 MWF 7 TO 5.**

C. THE AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (ASCA) CONFERENCE WILL be June 23-26, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center. For more information, go to: <http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?pl=325&sl=129&contentid=182>

D. MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION (MCEC) CONFERENCE will be July 11-13, 2007 with a pre-conference July 10-11 at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City. For more information and a registration form, go to: <http://www.militarychild.org/KansasCity.asp>

E. ANNUAL CHARACTER EDUCATION CONFERENCE will be held July 19-20, 2007, in St. Louis. Information is available at <http://www.characterplus.org/>

F. 2007 MISSOURI ACTE SUMMER CONFERENCE AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS WILL be held July 23-July 26, 2007 in Springfield. Go to <http://www.mo-acte.org/> for details and registration information.

G. THE MSCA LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE IS scheduled for September 7-9, 2007. Watch here for further details.